A Hidden Garden

Rachel Epp Buller, “Arbor 24,” 2016, monotype print, 12 x 9 inches.
We pass on our family and cultural identities between generations, not only through our shared stories but also through our making. Through my recent monotype prints, I explore shared bodies of knowledge and traditions of making that historically were passed down from mother to daughter. Such matrilineal knowledge is not written down but is of the body—an embodied knowledge...
transferred between hands. The *Arbor* and *Silva* monotypes make reference to the quiet traditions of fine handwork such as sewing, crochet, and cut-paper work known as *Scherenschnitte* done by my German and Swiss ancestors. Over time, my cut-paper shapes have become increasingly organic and I imagine them growing from a hidden garden.